

Environmental Facilities Corporation / Department of Environmental Conservation

Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant (EPG) Program – Frequently Asked Questions

Eligibility & Application

- 1. Can an income survey be used to demonstrate eligibility under the MHI threshold criteria?**
Yes, if the service area matches the proposed project and has been approved by EFC within the past five years.
- 2. Is there a limit to the number of EPGs that can be awarded?**
Only two active EPG awards per municipality are allowed at one time. To apply for a third EPG, one of the projects must be closed out prior to submitting another application. An EPG cannot be awarded to the same project scope twice.
- 3. What types of costs are eligible for an EPG?**
Engineering planning services, CCTV, flow monitoring, sampling, equipment rental or purchase, legal services, SEQR, and costs involved with the planning and development of an engineering report. Engineering design, construction administration, and construction costs are not eligible.
- 4. Can EPG funds be used for the purchase of equipment, such as flow meters?**
Yes, equipment purchases essential for developing a complete engineering report are eligible and EFC must approve the potential purchase prior to procurement.
- 5. Are green infrastructure projects eligible?**
Yes, if used to address a wastewater or combined sewer overflow (CSO) issue.
- 6. Are stormwater infrastructure projects eligible?**
Yes, but priority will be given to municipalities proposing planning projects with a documented water quality impairment.
- 7. Can we apply for an EPG for a project that is already in the planning stage?**
The EPG program cannot fund a completed engineering report. However, an engineering report that has been started but not yet completed at the time of application is eligible. The grant requirements still apply to the full grant amount.
- 8. Can we apply for an EPG on a project that is already listed on the Intended Use Plan (IUP)?**
Yes, if they are on the Multi-Year List and an engineering report does not already exist. Projects on the Annual List are not eligible.

9. What should we do if our collection system is too large to be funded by a single study?

We recommend a phased approach to large collection systems, using multiple EPGs for separate phases. Use the first EPG to study the area of highest priority. All engineering reports must contain a capital improvement project recommendation.

10. Is it possible to view the EPG application questions in the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) before filling out the application?

Yes, see the [CFA Program Questions webpage](#). For assistance, contact the CFA helpdesk at cfa-tech@ny.gov.

11. Does EFC provide any guidance on the engineering report?

Yes, the report must follow the <https://efc.ny.gov/forms-tools>

12. How and when should the engineering report be submitted?

Email to epg@efc.ny.gov or submit using [EFC's upload form](#). No hard copies are required. Engineering reports should be submitted no later than 6 months prior to the grant agreement expiration date.

13. What is the deadline for submission of the engineering report for the 2023 round?

Submit by June 1, 2025 to be included on the 2026 CWSRF IUP Annual List.

14. After the report has been submitted to epg@efc.ny.gov, what should I do to ensure my project is also listed on the Annual List for EFC financing?

Submit a listing through EFC's Project Listing and Update System (PLUS) website to have your project listed on the Annual List.